

*His Character, Court, and
Chroniclers 309*

lived among Moslem women and slaves as his son and grandson are described as living. An Arabic contemporary states that he used to go forth on the religious processions under the gala umbrella which the Fatimite khalifs used.*

The King delighted in the company of learned Moslems, towards whom he showed that benignity of which he was not devoid. It is recorded that when any learned man, of any creed soever, entered into his presence, the King stood up, went to meet him, and made him sit down by his side. Ibn el Athir speaks of a Moslem doctor attached to the court who was of eminent learning and virtue; the King especially trusted him, and preferred him to the priests and monks of the palace. This was probably the famous Edrisi. In the same place this historian describes an incident at court which illustrates the Moslem conception of Roger's magnanimity.²

It was at the time when Islam was reviving in the East and Zenki of Mosul, leader of a Holy War, broke in on the colonies founded by the first Crusaders and captured Edessa (1144). On the authority of a very learned man it is told that the Prankish prince of Sicily had made a naval expedition against Tripoli of the West and

that the Pranks had put that country
to sack and
slaughter. There lived then in Sicily a
learned
Moslem, held in great reverence by
the Sicilian

¹ Ibn-Hammad in Amari, *B. A. S.* i., p. 509.

*J3. *A. S.*, L, p. 463.